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## REVIEWS.

*Life, Character, and Judicial Services of John Marshall.* Compiled and edited with an introduction by John F. Dillon. Callaghan & Co., Chicago. 1903. 3 Vols., cloth, pp. 1615.

In these volumes we have a very complete collection of the addresses upon the life, character and services of Chief Justice Marshall delivered before the various bar associations, societies, colleges, etc., on Marshall Day, 1901; together with the great eulogies and orations delivered soon after Marshall's death, or on various occasions since, by Judge Story, Horace Binney, Hon. E. J. Phelps, and others. While there are parts of this book, notably the various introductory addresses and the accounts of the transaction by all the States. As stated by the author the work is a general think could easily be spared without impairing its worth, it will prove, we believe, of great value and interest both to the lawyer and to the general student of American political and constitutional history. The student of American history will find a fairly detailed and complete history of the period from 1785 to 1835—a very important half century in the development of our nation—in a novel and unusual form. In these addresses our internal development is traced, our relations with foreign states explained, and the growth of the Constitution described, from many standpoints, by men of different political parties and with views colored by diversity of environment and education, sometimes with emphasis upon one phase of the subject, sometimes upon another. The lawyer will have a natural interest in the history of the development of the Constitution; but besides that, he will have an equal interest in the portrayal of the life and character of the man himself. The picture of the great judge and lawyer who was at the same time one of the noblest and most high-minded men that our country has seen, should furnish an ideal and an inspiration to every member of the profession. A large part, however, of the value of these volumes to the lawyer lies in another feature: the discussion of Marshall's judicial services gives an occasion for reference to, and more or less extended comment upon, some one hundred and twenty-five important decisions of our own and the English courts. Almost every important constitutional case from the establishment of the Supreme Court to the Insular cases is discussed and explained. Marshall's great judgments in particular are referred to in almost every address; and from every point of view the meaning and importance of the decisions in *Marbury v. Madison*, the *Dartmouth College Case*, *McCulloch v. Maryland*, and *Gibbons v. Ogden* are considered and enforced.

Mr. Dillon's idea of including the classic orations of Story, Binney, Rawle, Waite, and Phelps was a happy one. Without intending to institute any uncomplimentary comparisons with the other addresses, it seems to us that the former are among the most valuable and important in the whole book. His introduction, also, in which he discusses Marshall's influence in establishing the constitutional authority of the Supreme Court, and the principle of nationality in the Constitution, is an important contribution to the discussion of those questions which we would not willingly lose.

The duties of the publisher and the editor have been well done. The book is handsomely gotten up, well printed, illustrated with several excellent portraits, and supplied with a table of cases cited and a copious general index. From every point of view it is worthy of a place in the private library of any American gentleman who has an interest in the history of our country during an important and interesting period of its development. C. B.

*A Treatise on Commercial Paper and the Negotiable Instruments Law.* By James W. Eaton and Frank B. Gilbert. Matthew Bender, Albany, N. Y. 1903. 1 Vol., pp. 767., sheep.

The appearance of a new treatise on commercial paper with special reference to the Negotiable Instruments Law is an agreeable indication of the rapid progress of that law toward universal adoption by all the states. As stated by the author the work is a general treatise on the law of commercial paper, but so treated as to lead up to, illustrate and adapt itself to the several provisions of the Negotiable Instruments Law. It commends itself to the student in law schools and to the young lawyer especially by the manner of its arrangement. The whole subject is broken up into the natural divisions of the Negotiable Instruments Act; the general topics are next fully digested in proper sub-divisions at the heads of each chapter, and the paragraphs of the text with an italicized caption follow these sub-divisions. These are not lumbering and cumbersome, but short, concise and clear, enabling the author to crowd into comparatively small space a greater amount of material in better form than is contained in some more pretentious works.

In the two appendices are given a digest of the Negotiable Instruments Law and the English Bills of Exchange Act. About these it is sufficient to say that their purpose will be heartily appreciated by the student and to this purpose they are excellently adapted. The volume is well indexed and the cases cited, numbering about seven thousand, appear to have been selected with care. The work as conceived is far from mediocre, and as executed is in pleasing contrast to the tedious, diffuse verbosity which occasionally attempts to pass under the guise of an exhaustive treatment. Many students would be glad of a set of commercial forms which are here omitted even though they added somewhat to the size of the volume. G. D. G.